

Appl. No. : 10/606,001
Filed : June 24, 2003

REMARKS

I. Amendments to the Claims

Applicants respectfully request entry of the Amendments to the Claims set forth above. Claim 4 has been rewritten to recite an optical compensation layer formed on the carrier substrate. Claims 6, 7, 9, 11, 12 and 16 have been amended for clarity. These amendments do not narrow the scope of Claims 6, 7, 9, 11, 12 and 16. Claims 1-3 and 10 have been canceled. New Claims 17-20 have been added.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

In paragraph 4 of the Office action, the Examiner has noted allowability of the subject matter of previous Claims 10-13, 15, and 16. Applicants respectfully submit that amended Claim 4 is now allowable because it is a modified version of previous dependent Claim 10, and that new Claims 17 and 19 are also allowable as being independent versions of previous dependent Claims 12 and 15. Applicants also respectfully submit that dependent Claims 5-9, 11-16, 18 and 20 are allowable because they recite additional limitations in combination with the limitations of the allowable claims from which they depend.

Applicants reserve the right to file divisional and/or continuation applications containing claims directed to all or part of the subject matter described in the instant application, including the subject matter of any claims amended, withdrawn, or canceled at any time during the prosecution of this application, and thus unclaimed subject matter is not dedicated to the public.

III. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

In paragraph 2 of the Office action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1, 2, 4, 5-7 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,456,420 ("Goodwin-Johansson"). Applicant respectfully points out that Claims 1 and 2 have been canceled. Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 4 has now been amended to recite a combination of limitations, including an optical compensation layer formed on the carrier substrate, the optical compensation layer comprising a material of a finite extinction coefficient, which is neither taught nor suggested by Goodwin-Johansson. Dependent Claims 5-7 and 14 recite additional limitations that, in combination with the limitations of Claim 4, further distinguish those claims

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from Goodwin-Johansson. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

IV. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

In paragraph 3 of the Office action, the Examiner rejected Claims 3, 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goodwin-Johansson in view of U.S. Patent Application 2004/0035821 A1 ("Doan"). Applicants respectfully point out that Claim 3 has been canceled. Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 4 has now been amended to recite a combination of limitations, including an optical compensation layer formed on the carrier substrate, the optical compensation layer comprising a material of a finite extinction coefficient, that is neither taught nor suggested by Goodwin-Johansson or Doan, each alone or in combination. Dependent Claims 8 and 9 recite additional limitations that, in combination with the limitations of Claim 4, further distinguish those claims from Goodwin-Johansson and Doan, each alone or in combination. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

V. Conclusion

Since all of the pending claims are modified versions of claims considered allowable by the Office or depend from such claims, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance, early notification of which would be appreciated. Applicant has endeavored to address all of the Examiner's concerns as expressed in the Office Action. Accordingly, amendments to the claims, the reasons therefor, and arguments in support of patentability of the pending claim set are presented above. Any claim amendments which are not specifically discussed in the above remarks are made in order to improve the clarity of claim language, to correct grammatical mistakes or ambiguities, and to otherwise improve the clarity of the claims to particularly and distinctly point out the invention to those of skill in the art. Finally, Applicant submits that the claim limitations above represent only illustrative distinctions. Hence, there may be other patentable features that distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art.

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In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and, particularly, that all claims be allowed. If the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to the prompt allowance of these claims that could be clarified with a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully invited to call the undersigned.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.


Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated:

December 20, 2004

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